

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace the two (2) drawing sheets containing Figs. 1B and 1C and Figs. 6, 7, 9 and 14 with the "Replacement Sheets" included herewith. The corrections are shown in red ink on the two (2) sheets labeled "Annotated Marked-Up Drawings" also included, and reflect the following addition and modifications:

- 1) Numeral 18 in Fig. 1B to show threaded member 18;
- 2) In Fig. 7, numeral 39 has been changed to numeral 40, numeral 42 has been changed to numeral 39 and numerals 36 and 41 with their respective directional lines and arrows have been removed.

REMARKS:

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5 and 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Batcheller. Claims 6-13 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Batcheller alone or further in view of Klein.

Under the §102 argument, claim 1 has been amended to include a depression shaped complementary to the tip of the ram whereby the dimple formed by the tool will project into the depression rather than over it. The Batcheller patent has a saddle 50 ("depression") which is semi-cylindrical with an inside radius substantially equal to the radius of the sleeve ("tubular member") see column 3, lines 55-57. The Batcheller patent shows a depression and a "ram" on the outside of a tubular member. Thus, Batcheller shows the entire tube between the jaws of the tool whereas in applicant's device the tube is slid over one of the jaws.

Claim 14 has also been amended to include a ram and a punch attached to the opposing jaws while one jaw is inserted into the end of the tubular member forming a dimple along the inside and projecting outwardly.

Under the §103 argument claim 6 has been amended to include the lower jaw defining a depression opposite one of the rams. The Klein device is used for forming connectors in which, like

Batcheller, the inside "tube" is placed between the jaws. Klein shows a plurality of "rams" or "punches" but the Klein punches are all fixed. Additionally, there are no depressions opposing the Klein "rams". Claim 10 has also been amended to include a pair of rams attached to one jaw while the other jaw defines a pair of depressions.

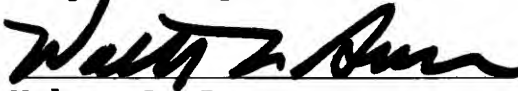
Other claims have likewise been amended based on the prior art and the determinations made by the Examiner.

In view of the changes to the specification and drawings of which no new matter has been included and in view of modifications to the claims, applicant believes that his device is now patentably distinct over the prior art of record.

Accordingly, applicant believes with the changes made to the claims that all remaining claims as now presented are in condition for allowance over the prior art patents of Batcheller and Klein whether such art is considered severally under §102 or in combination under §103. Claim allowance is therefore earnestly solicited at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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Walter L. Beavers

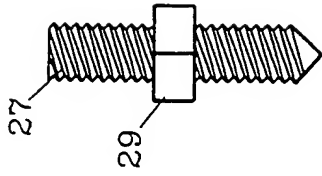


FIG. 1C

10B

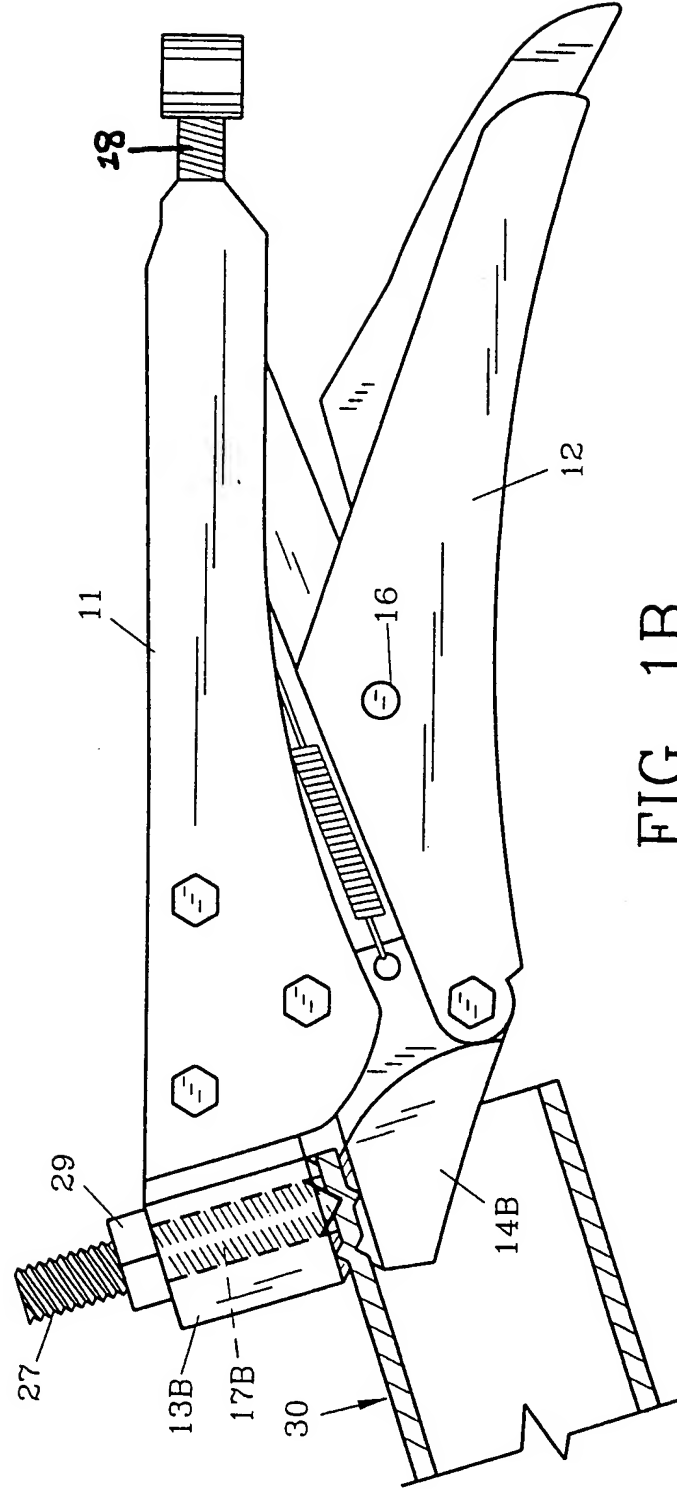


FIG. 1B

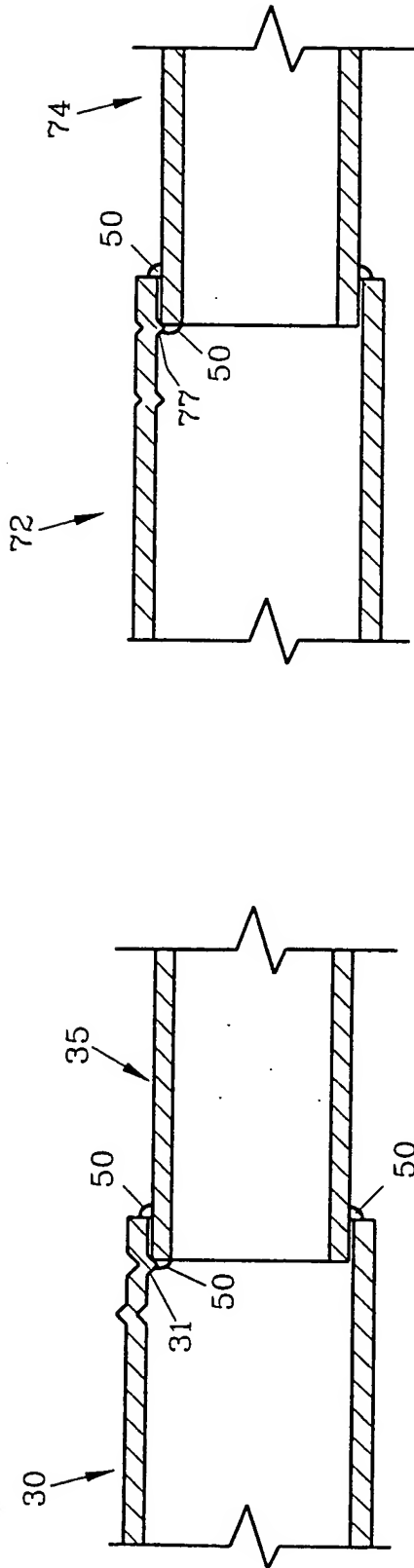


FIG. 9

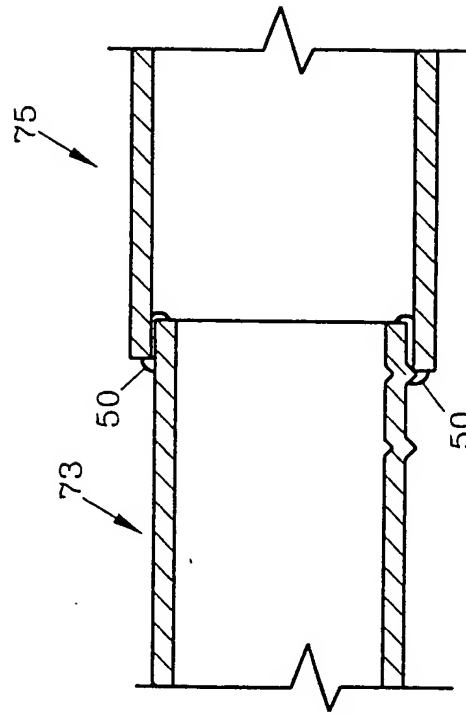


FIG. 14

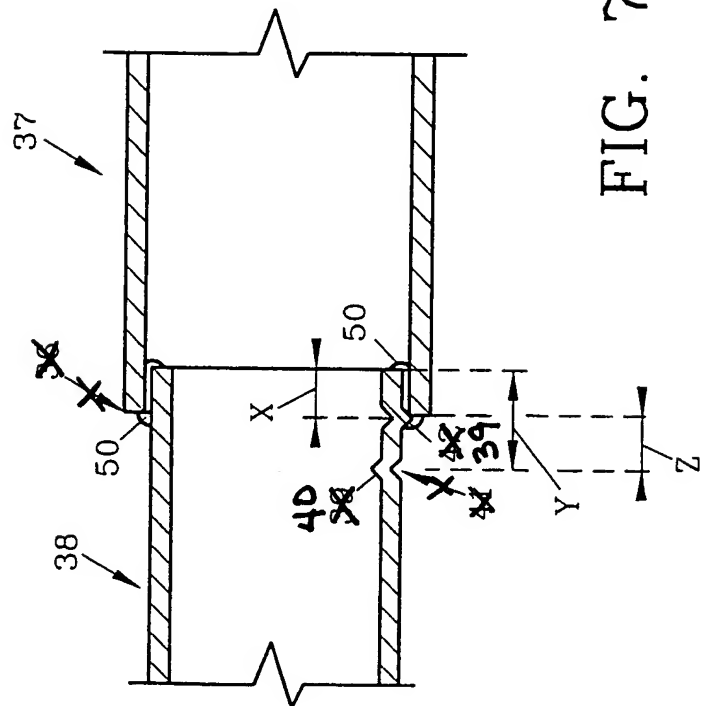


FIG. 7